

The **Parks and Recreation Board** met Monday, January 23, 2006 at 4:30pm in the Board of Works Room at City Hall.

Present at said meeting were Paula Woods, Mike Dana, Leon Trachtman, Garnet Peck, Nancy Offutt, and Attorney John Sorensen. Joe Payne, Pennie Ainsworth, Chris Foley, Brian Tunis, Brenda Lorenz, and Cheryl Kolb represented the Department. Council members Gil Satterly and Ann Hunt were present. Absent were Council Member Gerry Keen and Parks Director Lee Booth.

Paula convened the Board at 4:33 pm.

The first item on the agenda was the approval of the minutes of the December 19 meeting. Mike motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Garnet seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Superintendent – Joe reported on the following:

- Noted the Council Annual Report was included in the mailing.
- A copy of the flyer prepared on urban forest diversity was passed around.
- A Transportation Enhancement grant application for \$1,000,000.00 for the Wabash Heritage Trail/Trolley Line Trail Connection has been prepared to submit to INDOT. Award notifications are expected by fall.

Assistant Superintendent – Pennie reported on the following:

- The 12th Annual Global Fest will be Saturday, September 2. The first committee meeting will be Friday, February 3. To date, the Mayor has raised \$2,000.

Parks – Joe reported in Lee's absence on the following:

- Noted inspections are available.
- Park signs are still in the process of being repainted.
- A new section of mulched trail is being cut in Celery Bog Nature Area.
- New guardrail has been installed at the entrance to Happy Hollow Park.
- Work continues at the pool.

Recreation – Chris reported on the following:

- Shelter reservations began for spring and summer on January 3, have 50 reservations already.
- Registration for our Winter/Spring programs began on January 4. The mail-in registrations still prove to be our most convenient way to register for classes.
- The third grade basketball program finished on Saturday, January 21.
- Fourth grade basketball begins tonight, 43 children have enrolled in this five-week program. Terry Ness is the coordinator of the basketball program for grades 2, 3 and 4.
- Riverside Skating Center continues to be a popular winter recreation spot. Ice skating lessons began on Saturday, January 21. All three learn to skate classes have filled. We are also offering a Hockey appreciation skating class and have a few openings in it.
- Dare to Bear is scheduled for Friday, February 10 from 7-9 pm. Participants must be in their swimming attire and complete one lap to earn a commemorative pin.

Morton Center – Brenda reported on the following:

- There have been 1,009 registrations for our winter session compared to 1,178 registrations last year at this time, a decrease of 14%.
- There will be free tax assistance again this year at Morton for those people with basic tax returns, particularly those with low and limited income, individuals with disabilities,

non-English speaking non-Purdue students and elderly taxpayers on Wednesdays, February 1 – 22 from 1 to 4:45 pm. Appointments are required. More dates may be added if there is sufficient demand.

- On Tuesday, January 17, she did the noon interview on WLFI-TV18 news to promote new programs at Morton.

- We have had J.R. Kelly Construction Company examine the crown molding in the multipurpose room and make recommendations on needed repairs. Those recommended repairs will be made over the next month.

Discussion followed about the decrease in registrations at Morton.

Beautification & Stewardship – Brian reported on the following:

- Cut down hazard tree in Michaud-Sinninger Woods
- Sunday, January 22 had a volunteer workday at Michaud-Sinninger Woods with 19 members of Beta Chi Theta Fraternity.
- Continue to work on winter landscape maintenance, especially leaf removal
- This season's Wednesdays in the Wild program started on January 18 with Lenny Farlee speaking. The program is increasingly popular with the public and has no cost. Thanks to the Convention and Visitors Bureau for publicizing the event on their web page.
- Tree City USA recertification has been turned into the State.
- Diane Beasley is now full time with the Department.

Old Business

Soccer Use Agreement

Pennie presented a request for use of the Cumberland Park soccer fields by the Greater Lafayette Recreational Soccer Alliance for the spring of 2006. The agreement would start April 8 and run until May 21. Practices would be Monday – Friday from 3:30 to dusk. Games would be on Saturdays from 8 am until 6 pm and on a couple of Sundays from noon until 5 pm. Leon motioned to approve the agreement. Mike seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Farmers Market

Joe reported that he is trying to get an independent contractor to run the Sagamore West Farmers Market. Hopefully the matter will be resolved at a meeting this evening and a mailing will be sent out yet this month.

New Business

West Lafayette School Board

Nancy reported that everyone should have received their mailing from the Foundation asking for donations. The band room is finished. Two principal searches are under way – one for the Junior/Senior High School and one for Happy Hollow School.

Wabash River

Mike reported that the Enhancement Committee would meet on Friday, January 27. Paula stated that on Sunday, January 29 an Indianapolis channel will be showing a one-hour presentation on the Wabash River. The Wabash River Parkway Commission will meet on the second Thursday in February.

Other

Joe suggested that we consider a name for "Dubois Park" possibly Maple Park, so a sign could be made. After much discussion Leon motioned to name the park Dubois, Nancy seconded the motion. The motion failed.

Purchase Orders**Pay Claims**

Leon motioned for claims to be paid. Mike seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 5:20pm.

Presiding Officer

Secretary